

LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, March 9, 2011
MINUTES

Present: Marilyn Peterson, Pat Roschewski, Joel Scherling, Freida Lange, Donlynn Rice, Sharon Katt, Mark Schultz, Mike Kozak, Margaret Worth, Russ Inbody, Carol Fichter, Melody Hobson, Mary Ann Losh, Gary Sherman, Brian Halstead, Roger Breed, Betty VanDeventer, Scott Swisher

1. Updates*Brian Halstead*
 - State Legislation. Brian Halstead provided an update on legislative actions. The final day for designation of Priority bills is March 10. LB 333 (Education Innovation Fund) and LB 637 (higher ed) have been identified as priority bills for Education Committee.
 - Federal legislation includes continuing resolution to fund the federal government until March 18, 2011.
2. Board Follow-Up*Roger Breed*

Commissioner Breed reiterated that there will not be a June Board meeting. There will be a July Board meeting.
3. State Board Meeting Room Update*Mike Kozak/Scott Swisher*

NDE is working with NET on updating the State Board Meeting Room. Bids are being negotiated and hopefully presented to State Board in April. NDE is also contracting with Cornhusker State Industries for Board Room furniture. The upgrade will allow more video-conferencing and video streaming capabilities. The upgrade is due to NET satellite capabilities being terminated. The Update is scheduled for completion by July 2011. For more information, contact the Commissioner's Office.
4. ACT Resolution*Roger Breed*

Commissioner Breed shared the Board resolution for a 3 year pilot to use ACT for junior year testing in addition to NeSA in eight selected districts. The purpose of the resolution is to focus and promote college going and college readiness.
5. Boards and Committees*Roger Breed*
 - Leadership Council Members are asked to review and update the list of Committees and NDE advisory committees requiring Board approval. Members will also need to provide the process used for filling vacancies and noting vacancies during the next 12 months.
6. NDE Project Updates
 - Mary Ann Losh reported on the status of Rule 15 (ELL). The Committee provided an update at the March State Board meeting. The internal committee has met and a subcommittee will be formed to work on a draft. An organizing meeting with external stakeholders for their suggestions and input it being planned.

- Donlynn Rice reported on the status of the Educator Standards. The Committee is working on draft teacher and principal (those who work directly with students) standards and accompanying example indicators. They are considering adding impact statements which further define what good practice looks like in a classroom or school. Plans are to highlight the work of the Committee at a future super day and gather staff input on the standards.
 - Pat Roschewski reported on the status of the Accountability Plan. The next meeting of the Committee is April 4, to coincide with the State Board Meeting and meeting with the State Board Accountability Committee.
 - Freida Lange reported on the status of Rule 84. The first meeting of this committee is set for March 29.
7. Virtual Schools White Paper*Roger Breed/Mike Kozak*
Mike Kozak reported on the progress of formulating the White Paper regarding Virtual Schools. They hope to finalize by the end of March and share with the Board at the April meeting.
 8. E-Mail Lists*Marilyn Peterson*
Marilyn Peterson shared information on the upkeep and maintenance of the Email Lists used by the Department and the Public. A committee will be formed to look at making this process more efficient.
 9. Data Requests.....*Marilyn Peterson*
Marilyn Peterson reminded members that any requests for Data need to be in writing and directed to her. This includes inside and outside of NDE.
 10. Reauthorization of ESEA*Scott Swisher*
Deputy Swisher reported on a recent meeting he participated in with regard to the reauthorization of ESEA.
 11. Items for All Staff Meeting @ 1:00 p.m.....*Roger Breed*
Items for the All Staff Meeting include: Legislative Update, State Board Room Update, and Project Areas Updates.
 12. Other
 - Freida Lange asked Members to review a list of school districts who are slated for peer review visits and offer insights or assistance with the reviews.
 - Marilyn Peterson reminded members to name a representative from their teams to enter Master Calendar information. Training will be provided in the near future.

NEXT REGULAR LC MEETING – Wednesday, April 6, 2011